

JULY 22, ST. MARY MAGDALEN

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The Latin writers, beginning With Tertullian, have generally and with great probability identified Mary of Magdala as the sister of Lazarus, and as the sinner who anointed the feet of Jesus. The Greeks, on the other hand, distinguished three Marys. Her brother Lazarus, died in the island of Cyprus. His body was brought to Constantinople by the Emperor Leo VI and laid in the Lazarion, (899). The body of Mary, his sister, who, according to a tradition dating from the Sixth Century, had been buried at Ephesus, was soon brought and laid beside him in the new sepulchral basilica of Byzantium. The Greeks give to her the title of "like unto an apostle", because she first announced to the world and to the apostles themselves the Resurrection of the Lord.

The scene of the conversion of Mary of Magdala is perhaps one of the incidents in the Gospel which best reveals the gentleness of the heart of the Redeemer. To Mary much is forgiven, because she loved much; this is the remedy for sinners; this is the spirit which sustains the Church Militant, wherein we may indeed see many sins caused by human frailty, but in which there may be found also a great love ready to pardon all.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 95-96

Me exspectavérunt peccatóres, ut pérderent me: testimónia tua, Dómine, intelléxi: omnis consummationis vidi finem: latum mandátum tuum nimis. (Ps. 118: 1) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Me exspectavérunt peccatóres, ut pérderent me: testimónia tua, Dómine, intelléxi: omnis consummationis vidi finem: latum mandátum tuum nimis.

COLLECT

Beátæ Mariæ Magdalénæ, quæsumus, Dómine, suffrágiis adjuvémur: cujus prócibus exorátus, quatríduánum fratrem Lázarum vivum ab ínferis resuscitásti: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Canticles 3: 2-5; 8: 6, 7

Surgam, et circuibo civitátem: per vicos et platéas quæram quem diligit ánima mea: quæsívi illum, et non invéni. Invenérunt me vígiles, qui custódiunt civitátem. Num quem diligit ánima mea, vidístis? Páululum cum per transíssem eos, invéni quem diligit ánima mea: ténuí eum, nec dimittam, donec introducam illum in domum matris meæ, et in cubiculum genitricis meæ. Adjúro vos, filíæ Jerúsalem, per cápreas, cervósque campórum, ne suscitétis, neque evigiláre faciátis diléctam, donec ipsa velit. Pone me ut signáculum super cor tuum, ut signáculum super bráchium tuum: quia fortis est ut mors diléctio dura sicut inférnus æmulátio: lámpades ejus, lámpades ignis, atque flammárum. Aquæ multæ non potuérunt exstinguere caritátem, nec flúmina óbruant illum: si déderit homo omnem substántiam domus suæ pro dilectióne, quasi nihil despiciet eam.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 8

Dilexísti justítiam, et odísti iniquitátem. Proptérea unxit Te Deus, Deus Tuus, óleo lætítíæ. Allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 44: 3) Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: proptérea benedixit te Deus in ætérnum. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 7: 36-50

In illo témpore: Rogábat Jesum quidam de pharisæis, ut manducáret cum illo. Et ingressus domum pharisæi, discubuit. Et ecce múlier, quæ erat in civitáte peccátrix, ut cognóvit quod accubuisset in domo pharisæi, áttulit alabástrum unguénti: et stans retro secus pedes ejus, lácrymis coepit rigáre pedes ejus, et capillis sui tergébat, et osculabátur pedes ejus et unguénto ungebát. Videns autem pharisæus, qui vocáverat eum, ait intra se, dicens: Hic si esset prophéta, sciret útique, quæ et qualis est múlier, quæ tangit eum: quia peccátrix est. Et respóndens Jesus, dixit ad illum: "Simon, hábeo tibi aliquid dícere. At ille ait: Magíster, dic. "Duo debitóres erant cuidam foeneratóri: unus debébat denários quingéntos, et álius quinquaingénta. Non habéntibus illis unde rédderent, donávit utrisque. Quis ergo eum plus diligit?" Respóndens Simon, Dixit: Æstimo quia is, cui plus donávit. At ille dixit ei: "Recte judicásti." Et convérsus ad múlièrem, dixit Simóni: "Vides hanc múlièrem? Intrávi in domum tuam, aquam pédibus Meis non dedísti: hæc autem lácrymis rigávit pedes Meos, et capillis suis tersit. Osculum Mihi non dedísti: hæc autem, ex quo intrávit, non cessávit osculári pedes Meos. Oleo caput Meum non unxísti: hæc autem unguénto unxit pedes Meos. Propter quod dico tibi: Remittúntur ei peccáta multa, quóniam diléxit multum. Cui autem minus dimittitur, minus diligit." Dixit autem ad illam: "Remittúntur tibi peccáta." Et cooperúnt, qui simul accumbébant dícere intra se: "Quis est hic, qui étiam peccáta dimittit?" Dixit autem ad múlièrem: "Fides tua te salvam fecit: vade in pace."

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 10

Fíliæ regum in honóre tuo: ádstitit regina a dextris tuis in vestítu deauráto, circúmdata varietáte.

SECRET

Múnera nostra, quæsumus, Dómine, beátæ Mariæ Magdalénæ gloriósa mérita tibi reddant accepta: cujus oblatiónis obséquium impénitus Fílius tuus cleménter suscípit impénsum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia saecula saeculorum.

COMMUNION Psalms 118: 121

Feci judícium et justítiam, Dómine, non calumniéntur mihi supérbi: ad ómnia mandáta tua dirigébar, omnem viam iniquitátis ódio hábui.

POSTCOMMUNION

Sumpto, quæsumus, Dómine, único ac salutári remédio, corpore et ságuine tuo pretióso: ab ómnibus malis, sanctæ Mariæ Magdalénæ patrocíniis, eruámur: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me; I have understood Thy testimonies, O Lord: I have seen an end of all perfection: Thy commandment is exceedingly broad. (Ps. 118: 1) Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. The wicked have waited for me to destroy me; I have understood Thy testimonies, O Lord: I have seen an end of all perfection: Thy commandment is exceedingly broad.

May we be assisted, O Lord, we beseech Thee, by the intercession of blessed Mary Magdalen for whom, moved by her prayers, Thou didst bring back her brother Lazarus, then dead for four days, alive from the grave. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

I will rise and will go about the city: in the streets and the broad ways I will seek Him Whom my soul loveth: I sought Him, and I found Him not. The watchmen who keep the city found me. Have you seen Him Whom my soul loveth? When I had a little passed by them, I found Him Whom my soul loveth; I held Him, and I will not let Him go till I bring Him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that bore me. I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes and harts of the fields, that you stir not up, nor wake my beloved till she please. Put me as a seal upon Thy heart, as a seal upon Thy arm; for love is strong as death, jealousy is hard as hell; the lamps thereof are lamps of fire and flames. Many waters cannot quench charity, neither can the floods drown it; if a man shall give all the substance of his house for love, he shall despise it as nothing.

Thou hast loved justice and hated iniquity. Therefore, God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness. Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 44: 3) Grace is poured out upon your lips; thus God has blessed you forever. Alleluia.

At that time, one of the Pharisees desired Jesus to eat with him; and He went into the house of the pharisee, and sat down to meat. And behold a woman that was in the city, a sinner, when she knew that He sat at meat in the pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment; and standing behind at His feet, she began to wash His feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. And the pharisee, who had invited Him, seeing it, spoke within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would know surely who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth Him, that she is a sinner. And Jesus answering, said to him, Simon, I have somewhat to say to thee: but he said, Master, say it. A certain creditor had two debtors, the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And whereas they had not wherewith to pay, he forgave them both. Which therefore of the two loveth him most? Simon answering, said, I suppose that he to whom he forgave most. And He said to him, Thou hast judged rightly. And turning to the woman, He said unto Simon, Dost thou see this woman? I entered into thy house: thou gavest me no water for My feet; but she with tears hath washed My feet; and with her hairs hath wiped them. Thou gavest me no kiss; but she, since she came in, hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint; but she with ointment hath anointed My feet. Wherefore I say to thee, Many sins are forgiven her, because she hath loved much: but to whom less is forgiven, he loveth less. And He said to her, Thy sins are forgiven thee. And they that sat at meat with Him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And He said to the woman, Thy faith has made thee safe; go in peace.

The daughters of kings in thy glory: the queen stood on thy right hand in gilded clothing, surrounded with variety.

May the glorious merits of blessed Mary Magdalen, we beseech Thee, O Lord, render our gifts acceptable to Thee, as Thine only-begotten Son mercifully received the homage of the offering which she presented. Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

I have done judgment and justice, O Lord, let not the proud calumniate me; I was directed to all Thy commandments: I have hated all wicked ways.

Having received the sole remedy of salvation, Thy body and precious blood, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that, by the intercession of St. Mary Magdalen, we may be delivered from all evils. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.